

VERA SASSULITCH, Nihilist, is Dead

Alleged Daughter of Czar Shot Petrograd Chief of Police in 1878

RELEASED BY RUSSIAN JURY

By the Associated Press
Copenhagen, July 20.—Vera Sassulitch, a notorious Nihilist known twenty-five years ago throughout the world, died at Moscow Monday, according to a report received here.

Vera Sassulitch was the protagonist in one of the most sensational political "crimes" of the last century—the shooting in 1878 of General Trepov, chief of police of St. Petersburg. It was the forerunner of a long series of Nihilist assassinations inspired largely by her example and by the demonstration of popular sympathy provoked by her trial, which terminated with the amazing verdict of "Not guilty."

Born in 1831, Vera was reputedly the daughter of a distinguished army officer, but there is a story that she was really a child of Czar Nicholas I. When only eighteen years old she fell into the toils of the police, and for seven years was sent about from prison to prison, though apparently the only charge that could be brought against her was that she was a friend of the sister of the agitator Netchayev. Her experience of police tyranny transformed her into a fanatical revolutionist, and she successfully concealed her real sentiments that the Government made the mistake of freeing her, in 1876, at the height of the "struggle" with the established order, inaugurated by the famous manifesto of Katshchev.

Swore to Avenge Sweetheart
The Russian Government, in the winter of 1877-78 adopted repressive measures that resulted in the arrest of 2000 persons, 193 of whom were publicly tried in St. Petersburg, nearly all being condemned to imprisonment or exile. Among them was a student named Bogoluhov, said by some to have been a childhood sweetheart of Vera Sassulitch.

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visited the St. Petersburg prison and ordered the Nihilist prisoners to be brought before him. Bogoluhov refused to salute the general, who in a fit of rage knocked off his hat and ordered him lashed on the bare back.

Whether or not Bogoluhov died under the punishment, as reported, or whether or not he had been the friend of Vera Sassulitch, the young woman took an oath to avenge him or rather, as her counsel at her trial declared, to "expose to the whole country the hideous deed and thus forever prevent its recurrence."

On February 5, 1878, she called at Trepov's office on the pretense of presenting a petition. When he stretched out his hand to receive the petition, she drew a revolver and shot him in the side. The wound was serious but not fatal. Trepov has been described as the "pampered darling of Alexander II," and his assailant was promptly put on trial.

Vera Sassulitch rested her defense on her desire to direct the Government's attention by shooting Trepov. In the outrage he was perpetrating. In the presence of the Imperial Chancellor, and the brother and son of the Czar, the jury—supposedly packed, for it included eight government officials—brought in a prompt verdict of acquittal.

Verdict Brings Official Chase
The press received the verdict with applause, and yielding to public opinion the Government removed Trepov. But it also issued an ukase withdrawing from the cognizance of juries even cases of "common crime" when such crime was directed against one of the Czar's officials. Next, fresh regulations were framed for a change of the jury system, as well as for the discipline of lawyers

acting for the defense. Finally, in July, the Supreme Court of Appeals canceled the Sassulitch verdict on the ground of informality and a fresh trial was ordered.

Vera Sassulitch, however, had escaped abroad in the disguise of a Sister of Charity. In Switzerland and England she edited revolutionary papers and aided terrorist enterprises in Russia until in 1905, encouraged by the amnesty granted by Nicholas II, she returned to Russia.

She was a gifted writer and her essays on social, political and literary subjects were collected and published in two volumes in 1906.

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PANAMA'S MEDIATION PLEA DECLINED BY ARGENTINA
Republic Refuses to Arbitrate Old Boundary Dispute
Buenos Aires, July 20.—(By A. P.)—The Argentine Republic has declined to mediate between Panama and Costa Rica in the territorial dispute, which last March caused open hostilities between the two Central American Nations and prompted the United States to send several sharp notes to the Isthmus before warfare ceased. The special Panaman mission, consisting of

Harmonio Arias and Ricardo Morales, has departed for home.
This mission has been holding conversations with President Hipolito Yrigoyen and Foreign Minister Honorio Pueyrredon for several weeks, and has set forth every detail of Panama's part in the controversy in the hope that Argentina could be encouraged to take diplomatic steps of a mediatory nature.
The dispute between Panama and Costa Rica, which dates back nearly 100 years, reached an acute stage early in March when Panama formally disavowed an award by the late Chief Justice White, of the United States Supreme Court, which gave to Costa Rica sev-

eral thousand square kilometers of land on the Pacific side of the Isthmus, including the village of Coto.
Panama declared the White award unjust and "completely unacceptable." Costa Rica, on the other hand, contended that the disputed territory was wholly within her boundaries.

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